

Message Text

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44

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W
----- 050663

O R 131143Z AUG 75
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2151
INFO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 20875

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: VN, US, PFOR
SUBJECT: RETURN OF REMAINS FROM DRV

REF: PARIS 20826 EXDIS

1. DRV FIRST SECRETARY DO THANH CALLED ON EMBOFF AT 1015 AUGUST 13. HE SAID DRV EMBASSY HAD JUST RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS FROM HANOI TO PROVIDE US ORALLY WITH EMBASSY'S INFORMAL TRANSLATION INTO FRENCH OF HANOI'S LATEST AND NEGATIVE POSITION ON REPATRIATION OF THE REMAINS OF 3 U.S. PILOTS. EMBASSY'S INFORMAL TRANSLATION INTO ENGLISH IS AS FOLLOWS:

"WE (DRVG) THINK THAT THE NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE DRV AND THE U.S. SHOULD BE BASED ON AN ATTITUDE OF GOOD WILL BY THE TWO PARTIES. THE FACT THAT THE DRV AGREES TO PERMIT THE USG TO REPATRIATE THE REMAINS OF THE 3 AMERICAN PILOTS IS AN ILLUSTRATION OF GOOD WILL ON OUR SIDE. WE REGRET THAT THE AMERICAN SIDE CONTINUES TO HAVE AN UNFRIENDLY POLICY TOWARD THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE, WHICH PREVENTS GREATER PROGRESS ON THIS QUESTION. WE AFFIRM THAT WE STILL MAINTAIN THE IDEA OF PERMITTING THE USG TO REPATRIATE THE REMAINS

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OF THE 3 ABOVE MENTIONED AMERICANS, BUT BECAUSE OF THE

ATTITUDE OF THE USG THIS WORK CANNOT BE IMPLEMENTED JUST AT THIS TIME BECAUSE THIS WOULD PROVOKE MISUNDERSTANDINGS BY THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE AND BY WORLD PUBLIC OPINION. IT IS THE ATTITUDE OF THE AMERICAN SIDE WHICH IS THE CAUSE OF THIS DELAY".

2. THANH SAID THERE WAS NO INDICATION WHETHER THIS RESPONSE WAS THE RESULT OF HIS MESSAGE OF YESTERDAY OR WHETHER MESSAGES HAD CROSSED.

3. IT SEEMS FROM HERE THAT THE TIMING OF THE INITIAL, FAVORABLE RESPONSE OF AUGUST 9 AND THE CONTRARY POSITION OF AUGUST 13 INDICATE THAT THE DRV ACTIONS MAY HAVE BEEN MERELY A PLOY CONNECTED WITH UNSC CONSIDERATION OF THE UN APPLICATIONS BY THE VIETNAMS.

GAMMON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: RowellE0
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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06 JUL 2006

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